

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 909
By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to honor Robert Nelson "Bob" Clement as a
Distinguished Son of Dickson County and of the
State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the General Assembly pause in its deliberations to join the
citizens of the cities and counties that comprise this great State in celebrating joyous and
historic occasions; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2004, on the Courthouse lawn in Charlotte, the 200th
anniversary of the first meeting of the Justices of the Peace who organized Dickson
County Bicentennial Monument will be unveiled by four Distinguished Sons of Dickson County:
Oscar P. Robertson, the Big O, of Charlotte, representing Athletics; Anson A. Mount, IV, of
White Bluff, representing the Arts; Robert N. "Bob" Clement, of Dickson, representing Public
Service; and Thomas W. Beasley, of Burns, representing Business. Mr. Clement and Mr.
Beasley are also representing Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement exemplifies with continuing devotion the spirit of public service
that has existed throughout the 200-year history of Dickson County, as characterized by his
father, Governor Frank G. Clement; his aunt, Senator Anna Belle Clement O'Brien; and his
grandfathers, Dickson Mayor and Supreme Court Justice Robert S. Clement and Houston
County Judge and Erin Mayor Nelson Christianson. Bob Clement has dedicated his life to
unselfish service to others and improving the quality of life for all Tennesseans, establishing a
record in which all Dickson Countians can take pride; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement became the youngest person elected to statewide office in
Tennessee when he was elected in 1973 at age 29 to the Public Service Commission;
afterwards, President Jimmy Carter appointed him as a TVA Director. As president of

Cumberland University, he advanced the Institution from a two-year school to a four-year school, oversaw accreditation, doubled educational income and tripled private donations; and

WHEREAS, between 1988 – 2002, Mr. Clement was elected eight times to the United States Congress, where his accomplishments included changing the antiquated gasoline tax funding formula, immediately increasing funding for Tennessee roads by more than \$300 million per year; as ranking Democrat on the Railroad subcommittee he obtained initial funding to build commuter rail service for the Nashville area. As a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, he fought for data from the Pentagon about the Gulf War Syndrome, then helped pass legislation to give special healthcare benefits to Desert Storm veterans, a record in keeping with his role as a retired Colonel and veteran of 31 years in the United States Army and the Tennessee National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement is a prominent native of Dickson County and a member of Tennessee's most eminent political family, whose continuous service to Dickson County exceeds 110 years; he often steps forward as an advocate for Dickson County, lending a strong voice with state and federal government to improve the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor this fine county and its citizenry as they commemorate this significant milestone in their historic existence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and applaud Robert N. "Bob" Clement, a Distinguished Son of Dickson County, who has been chosen for the very high honor of unveiling the Dickson County Bicentennial Monument on March 20, 2004, and extend to him and to all the citizens of Dickson County our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.